

25X1X8

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COUNTRY: Western Europe/North Africa/Near East

SUBJECT: Popularity of Wire Tires

25X1A9a

25X1A2g

25X1X6 PLACE ACQUIRED:

DATE ACQUIRED :

DATE OF INFO :

25X1X6 SOURCE:

25X1X6 FRANCE -

1. Wire [or metallic] truck tires made by Michelin dominate the truck tire market, particularly in the larger sizes, making up 60 per cent of the original equipment in cross sections 8.25/up. The extreme overloading of trucks, the smooth but abrasive road surfaces, and the long hauls make up ideal conditions for the wire tire to out-perform textile carcass tires. Mileages obtained are 30 per cent higher than standard U.S. made tires.
2. Textile tires are seldom retreaded more than once. Sizes 7.50 and 8.25 wire tires are generally retreaded three times and other sizes twice.
3. The other two manufacturers, Dunlop and Kleber, try to compete with extra-extra ply textile tires which are merely the extra-ply tires with still two more plies to increase the carrying capacity. The price of the extra-extra ply tires has been cut to meet the wire tire and are often lower than the extra ply construction.
4. The semi-metallic truck tires cost more than either full textile or wire tires and have not been successful in service.
5. On passenger cars, the semi-metallic tires have given good mileages and provide better control at high speeds. They are somewhat harder riding but this is not a serious fault. The chief handicap is that they can be used successfully only on smooth roads, the light sidewalls breaking down quickly on rough surfaces.

Western Germany -

6. Tires used are of standard construction, using rayon and nylon in much the same proportion as in the U.S. Roads are good. No wire tires are made and they are not liked. Truck owners object to the damage to the vehicles caused by the poor riding qualities.

Switzerland -

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7. Wire tires are not popular. Truck loading is well controlled and there is no appeal in the greater carrying capacity that permits overloading. Roads are winding and hilly and hauls are short. Thrifty vehicle owners dislike the harder riding and damage to the vehicle.

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French Morocco - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

8. For no technical reason, wire tires are not liked, nearly as well as in France. Dunlop [France] tires cover 40 per cent of the requirements and Michelin has but 30 per cent, only a part of which are wire type.

Algeria - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

9. Wire tires are as popular as in France.

Ethiopia - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

10. Wire tires are not successful due to the poor condition of the roads.

Lebanon and Syria - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

11. Wire tires are popular as trucks are habitually overloaded and main roads are good.

Iraq - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

12. Future of trucking unsettled, most trucks were idle awaiting outcome of a government proposal to eliminate overloading. Operators claim they can not operate profitably with normal loads. Outcome of the proposal is unknown.

Iran - [REDACTED] 25X1X6

13. Roads are in bad repair. Wire tires can not operate successfully.

TYPE ACT-DATE INFO-TFR-DATE AREA

- 53 - 53 -

tires, rubber
51-54.4
40-61.6
wire tires

138 France
140 Germany
174 Switz
184 Algeria
216 Fr. Morocco
208 Ethiopia
228 Iran
230 Iraq
236-23.1 Lebanon
24.1 Syria

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